Crop Insurance Scheme

1703. SHRI BANGARULAXMAN:
SHRIMATI URMILABEN
CHIMAN BHAI PATEL: SHRI
ANANTRAY
DEVSHANKER DAVE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for inclusion of States under the pilot project for Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme in States;

(b) the details regarding the States included under the Scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government of Gujarat has requested for inclusion under the Scheme for the benefit of farmers of the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Initially, a Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme (PCIS) was proposed for implemention. The scheme was proposed in selected districts/States (the list of selected districts/States is at statement *(See* below). The selection of States/districts for the scheme was made keeping in view economic backwardness, large number of Small and Marginal Farmers in the State/district, availability of infrastructure is the State, operational convenience of the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC), the implementing agency etc.

An Experimental Crop Insurance Scheme (ECIS) has been implemented during Rabi 1997-98 in the States/districts originally selected for the Pilot Scheme (Except in Rajasthan where the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme is not under implemention).

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Government of Gujarat* had requested for inclusion of districts from the Gujarat State in PCIS. The scheme being of a Pilot nature, all States/districts could not be covered at the initial stage.

Statement

List of Districts/States selected for coverage under the Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme (PCIS)

1.	Andhra	Pradasam Pradesh Mehaboobnagar
2.	Assam	N. Lakhimpur Nagaon Dhemaji Nalbari
3.	Bihar	Sitamari Darbhanga Madhubani Samastipur Khagria Palamau Vaishali
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Bastar Sarguja
5.	Maharashtra	Amravati
6.	Orissa	Bolangir Kalahandi Naupada Kendrapada Jaipur
7.	Tamil Nadu	Naggapattanam Thivarur A.T. Panneerselvan
8.	Karnataka	Bijapur
9.	Rajasthan	Jhunjhunu

Building of Field Tanks

1704. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for building field tanks in the agricultural fields of farmers is still in existence in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, what has been the response of the farmers to this scheme;

(c) whether there are complaints of less enthusiasm on the part of Government; and

(d) what steps will be taken to do more work under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has been reported by the Government of Maharashtra that the construction of farm ponds is one of the components of the Integrated Watershed Development Programme being implemented in Maharashtra under the State Plan. The response of the farmers to this scheme is satisfactory. During 1997-98, 167S farm ponds have been constructed.

(c) and (d) As per the previous guidelines, 20% contribution from the beneficiary was compulsory. As a result, there was some resistance from the farmers to this condition. However, considering the utility of the programme, the Government of Maharashtra has now revised the guidelines and contribution from the farmers is reduced to 5%.

Amendment of Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992

1705. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:
SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA':
DR. RANBIR SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to amend the; existing Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992 for ensuring increased private investment in dairy industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the per-capita milk consumption in our country as compared to that of China, Taiwan and Denmark?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The matter is under examination.

(c) Comparisons of per capita milk consumption are not available. Per capita milk availability (1996-97) per day (gms) is as follows:

India	201
China	20
Taiwan	44
Denmark	2500

Rice Production in Gujarat

1706. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gujarat, despite being a low productivity State for rice, still grows nearly one million tonnes of rice every year;

(b) if so, the details of rice produced by the State during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) what incentives are being given by Central and State Governments to farmers of Gujarat to increase production and productivity of rice in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of rice production in Gujarat State during 1994-95 to 1996-97 and the likely production during 1997-98 is given in the table below:—

Year	Rice Production (In Million Tonnes)
1994-95	0.94
1995-96	0.83
1996-97	0.95
1997-98	1.04

(c) To support the efforts of the State Government in increasing the productivity and production of cereal crops like rice, wheat, barley and millet, a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereal Based Cropping System areas (ICDP-CC) is under implementation. The emphasis under ICDP-CC is laid on the cropping system for improvement of